



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

February 8, 2011

MR. PAUL HOAG, TREASURER
OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL
& EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
211 S. FIFTH STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

Response Due Date
03/15/2011

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00162339

REFERENCE: OCTOBER MONTHLY REPORT (09/01/2010 - 09/30/2010)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 5 item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report discloses an aggregate year-to-date total(s) for a contribution(s) received from several individuals which appears to be incorrect. Please amend your report to provide the correct aggregate year-to-date total(s).
2. Schedule A supporting Line 12 discloses a transfer(s)-in from "Republican National Committee." Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) reflects payments for "Yard Signs." Please be advised that a state or local party committee may pay for campaign materials (such as pins, posters, bumper stickers and yard signs) that are distributed by volunteers in connection with activity on behalf of the party's nominees in a general election and for voter drive activity conducted on behalf of the party's Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees. Payments for this type of activity are exempt from the definition of a contribution or expenditure if certain conditions are met. The conditions are that no public advertising may be used, including distribution by direct mail (mailings by a commercial vendor or from commercial lists); all funds used for the activity must be permitted under the Act; none of the funds used may have been designated for a particular candidate; and finally, payments for the activity may not be made from transfers-in from the national committee to specifically fund the activity. For further guidance, please refer to 11 CFR § 100.87 and 100.147 and to the Campaign Guide for Party Committees.

Please clarify the nature of the transfer(s)-in and subsequent payments for the aforementioned disbursement(s). If the activity disclosed on your report does

OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Page 2 of 3

not meet the definition of 'exempt' activity as described above and if any portion of the expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified candidates, that amount must be disclosed on Schedule B, E or F supporting Line 23, 24 or 25 of the Detailed Summary Page as appropriate.

3. Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "Phone bank minutes used," "Phone bank set up" and "Videographer fee" which is categorized as Federal Election Activity and therefore, may require the disclosure of the candidate(s) this activity should be attributed to. Expenditures and disbursements for public communications that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s).

Further, please be advised that public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please clarify if this activity meets the definition of Federal Election Activity or if it contains express advocacy and amend your report to properly disclose this activity, if necessary.

4. Schedule H3 discloses the receipt of funds from your non-federal account for allocable administrative expenses which are listed as 100% non-federal on Schedule H4. A committee is permitted to pay the entire amount of an allocable activity from its federal account and receive a transfer(s) from its non-federal account solely to cover the non-federal share of the allocable expense(s). 11 CFR §§106.6(e) and 106.7(f) However, a 100% non-federal administrative activity/event does not fall within the definitions of an allocable expense, and constitutes an impermissible transfer of funds received by your federal account from your non-federal account.

The Commission recommends you immediately transfer the total amount received by your federal account back to your non-federal account. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

5. Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions from federal

OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Page 3 of 3

candidate and other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule B, supporting Line 11(c) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1157.

Sincerely,



Laura Sinram
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division